

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

( ) Release (X) Excise ( ) Deny

Exemption(s): B6

Declassify: ( ) In Part ( ) In Full

( ) Classify as ( ) Extend as ( ) Downgrade to

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Declassify on \_\_\_\_\_ Reason \_\_\_\_\_

Buenos Aires, Argentina

September 28, 1977

Ms. Eleanor H. Richardson

Dear Ms. Richardson:

Thank you very much for your letters to Mr. Hallman and Mrs. Derian regarding the detention of Dr. Claudio Bermann. We are very pleased to know that arrangements are being made for his residence in a country outside of Argentina.

Unfortunately the Argentine Government does not allow foreign diplomatic personnel to visit Argentine citizens under detention. We, of course, do have that right with respect to American citizens under the Vienna Consular Convention.

The Argentine Government has just today reestablished the part of Article 23 of the Argentine Constitution which provides for the right of option for political detainees to leave the country. This right of option will, however, be regulated by the Government. The details of the administration of the right of option have not as yet been announced.

We very much appreciate your letter on behalf of Dr. Claudio Bermann and will continue our previous inquiries on his behalf with the Government of Argentina for developments regarding his case.

Sincerely yours,

F. Allen Harris  
First Secretary

FAHarris:mp  
c.c. Bumpus  
Bova ✓

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